

Hear the words of the consumer. Allow the broadcasting of local content like traffic and weather to continue. There is no reason that paid subscribers of services like XM or Sirius shouldn't be able to hear the best possible content available, and have the freedom to get information from the source of their choosing. The reason we subscribe to these services is because of the decline of quality over-the-air broadcast radio. The dumbing down of radio, partially attributable to the deregulation of station ownership, has made it virtually unlistenable. Stations that used to provide variety and quality programming are now owned by monoliths like Clear Channel, who cave to the money of advertisers, record labels and government. This leaves nowhere for independent artists and intelligent discourse to go.

Sure, if you take away my XM traffic, I may switch on to AM "on the 8s" to hear the local broadcast. But after that, i will switch back to XM signal, and certainly not listen to the advertising that will surely follow.

As an American citizen, a taxpayer and an XM Radio subscriber, I demand that you REJECT PETITION 04-160, and preserve my right to choose my source of information. After all, XM Weather and Traffic isn't an Iraqi station broadcasting hate messages. It's a valuable service for Americans.

Thank you,

John B Brockman